

STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
STANFORD MEDICAL CENTER  
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DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS  
Professor Joshua Lederberg

NOV 18 1968

Statement 2, as it stands is unacceptable to me, and I believe will put the whole report in bad odor. It is easy to read it as a demand for guaranteed growth of science, hell-or-high-water; and it will be parodied by extrapolations to more scientists than people.

I will therefore sign the report only if the following sense is incorporated, either as a personal dissent, or into statement 2 as indicated.

*Sent  
air mail Spec. Del.  
11-18-68*

LT. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, JR. LABORATORIES FOR MOLECULAR MEDICINE  
dedicated to the study of mental retardation  
Molecular Biology Heredity Neurobiology Developmental Medicine

Note from J. Lederberg:

Basic research is still a minute fraction of our GNP. Until such time as we approach the limits of our material and human resources for expanding scientific work of high return, spending on science should be defined by our striving to reach targets of human benefit--social, economic and cultural-- and not by a fixed formula of growth rate. The growth of the economy can well sustain a rate of 15 to 20% per annum. However, such a policy must be founded on our perception of the insufficiency of existing programs to catalyze the most rewarding application of scientific thought and effort to meet human needs.

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The federal government should, at the earliest possible moment, take short-term corrective action to offset the critical short-term effects of the cutbacks.
- \* 2. Guidelines for the annual growth rate of federal spending on scientific research should be established. <sup>9</sup> ~~A figure of an~~ <sup>current</sup> annual 15 percent increase is suggested -- first because it is based on society's <sup>previous</sup> record of response to our many research needs, and second because it will help universities balance research growth with that of graduate education.
3. Improved methods of consultation and communication should be established between the federal government and the scientific community, so that each can better understand the unique problems, pressures and challenges facing the other.
4. Since scientific research is generally a long-run process, every effort should be made to put the scientific research budget on a long-term, multi-year basis. This would eliminate the type of short-term crisis now being felt by the scientific community.

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insert  
here.